The
HOMESTEAD of RICHARD DODGE

Successive owners of his "Pioneer Home"

By LOUIS A. DODGE

The
HOMESTEAD *of* RICHARD DODGE

Successive owners of his "Pioneer Home"
together with a general idea as to the
location of the boundary lines of the
several parcels herein described

Compiled from original deeds, wills, and inventories
By LOUIS A. DODGE
1947

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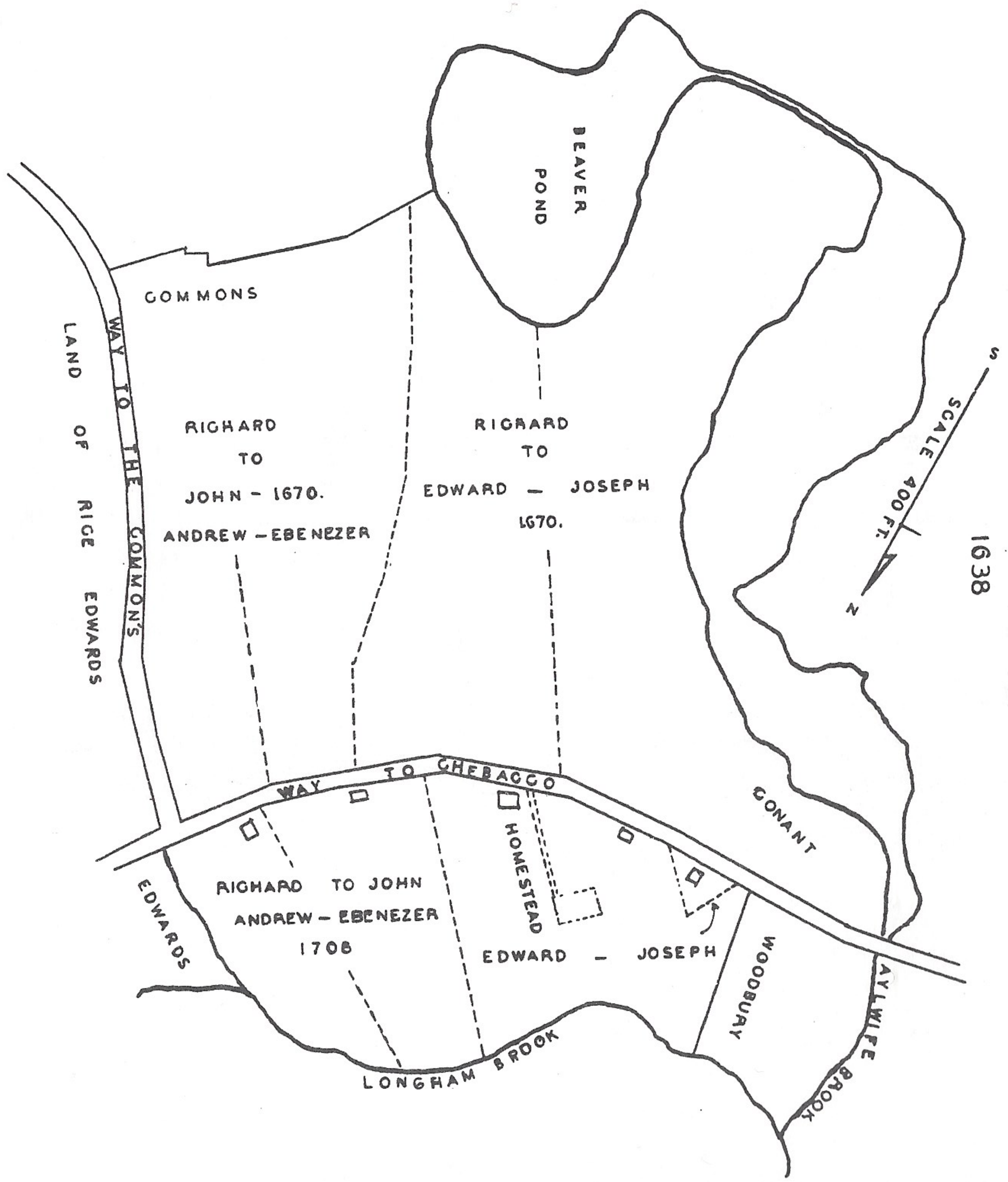
FOREWORD

This survey includes only the disposition of the 80 acres allocated by Salem to Richard[1] Dodge in 1638.

He and his immediate descendants were all land lovers, and acquired by purchase, common rights and trade, almost one quarter of Wenham: a tract comprising all of Wenham Neck extending to, and including the present Myopia Club area, and reaching to the Manchester and Beverly line.

It is interesting to note that much of this original tract in the course of three generations, came into the possession of the Edwards family,—either through purchase or marriage.

Several families at Wenham Neck continue to live on the land of their fore-fathers, the survey and story of which lands will be given in succeeding publications.


BEAVER POND
COMMONS
WAY TO THE COMMONS
LAND OF RICE EDWARDS
RICHARD TO JOHN - 1670. ANDREW - EBENEZER
RICHARD TO EDWARD - JOSEPH 1670.
SCALE 400 FT.
S
N
WAY TO CHEBACCO
CONANT
RICHARD TO JOHN ANDREW - EBENEZER 1708
HOMESTEAD
EDWARD - JOSEPH
EDWARDS
WOODBURY
ALEWIFE BROOK
LONGHAM BROOK

THE HOMESTEAD OF
RICHARD DODGE.
1638

Richard^1 Dodge, the pioneer, was in Salem about the year 1638. Shortly after that he received a grant of land from the Town of Salem, described as adjoining Rice Edwards.

He added to this grant several purchases from adjoining owners until he came into possession of a sizable tract of land situated partly in Wenham and partly in Beverly, on either side of Dodge Street.

In general, this land was bounded on the north by Longham Brook, on the west by Alewife Brook, on the south by Beaver Pond and on the east by Grover Street.

We know very little of the life of Richard Dodge but it is logical to assume that he was industrious and successful as success and fortune were measured at that time.

As his sons reached the years of manhood he placed each on a portion of his land and by so doing gave them a start in life but in all cases he held the ownership of his real estate until the last of his days when he provided for the several sons in a legal way through his will and deeds.

EASTERN PART

John^2

This fact will be shown by an extract from his will dated 1670 (as recorded in Volume four—page 404-5-6 in Essex Court Records) where in refering to his son John he "Gives a part of my farm both upland and meadows, of which he is now possessed according to a line previously agreed upon."

This is probably represented by lots No. 1-2-3 as shown on the plan titled "The Homestead of Richard^1 Dodge," John^2 Dodge received from his father a portion of the Dodge homestead of about 80 acres adjoining the land of Rice Edwards. His dwelling house stood near the Wenham-Beverly line, thus creating something of a difficulty as to taxes as shown by Wenham Town Records. Besides farming, John^2 Dodge also operated a mill at Wenham Neck which in later years was known as Ornes Mill.

"Lieut. John," as he was known, on May 6, 1708 gave by deeds (32-14 and 81-202) to each of his sons, Andrew and Ebenezer, the houses where each was living and ½ of the farm lying on either side of what is now Dodge Street, extending from Longham Brook to Beaver Pond and estimated about 40 acres to each.

ANDREW^3

Let us consider for the present that portion given to Andrew^3 who occupied it for some 40 years and disposed of it by will dated November 2, 1747.

The will of Andrew^3 Dodge, dated Nov. 2, 1747, gives his real estate to his son Amos^4, who married Hannah Green of Salem. (Probate 327-556)

At the death of Amos^4 Dodge 1755 his farm was divided as follows: To son Amos^5 ½ of the house and ⅔ of the real estate. To widow Hannah who later married Nathan Wyman, was assigned ⅓ of the real estate, also the east end of the dwelling house and parts of other buildings including the barn, etc.

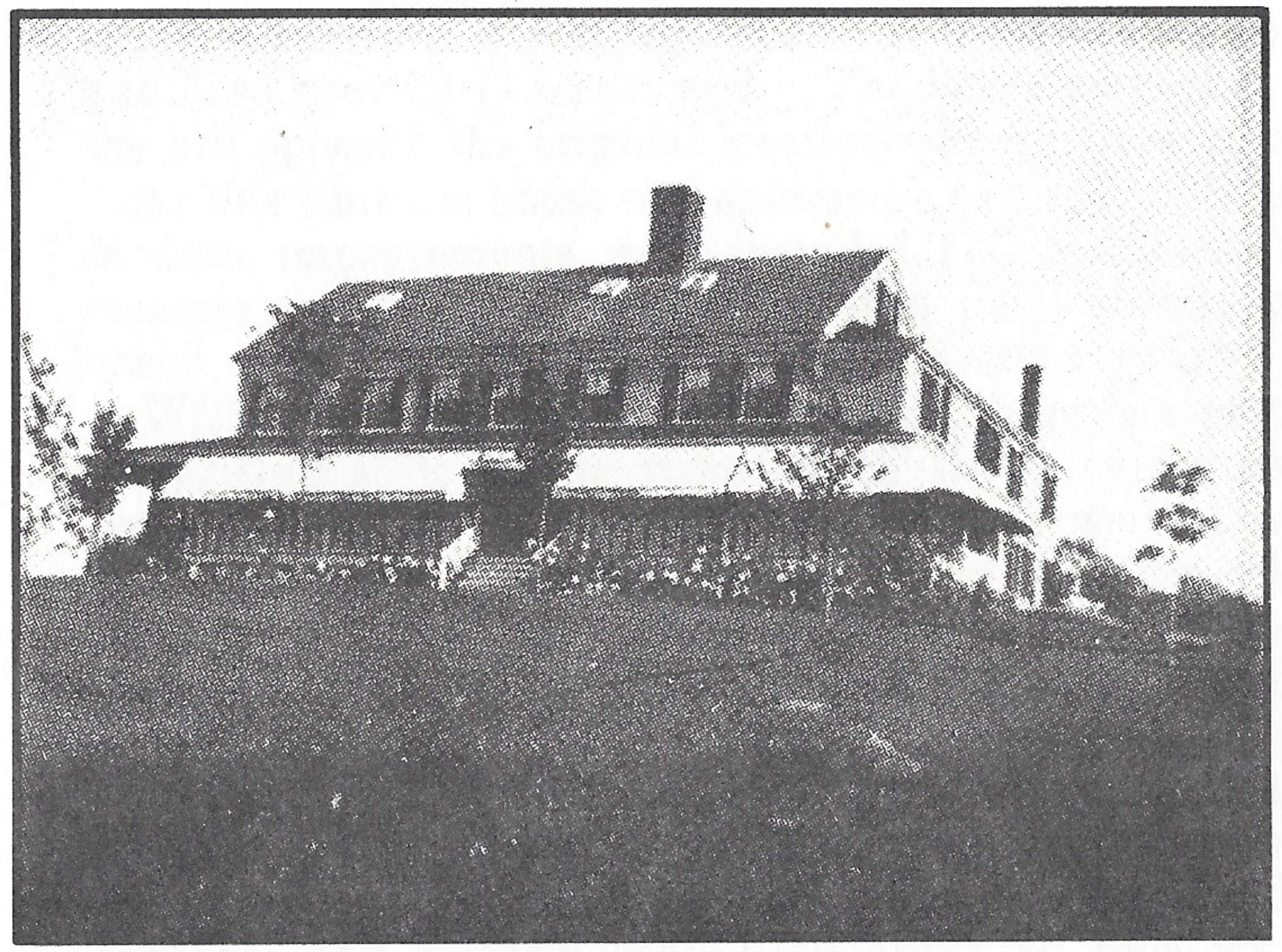
In a deed dated 2-8-1776 Amos^5 Dodge conveys to Jacob Edwards of Beverly his ⅔ part of the estate of my father's homestead. (deed 134-165.) Also ⅔ of a lot known as "Bears."

On March 15, 1791 Jacob Edwards conveyed the above to John Edwards by deed recorded 152-222. John Edwards held the title for about one year or until April 20, 1792 when by deed 159-8 he returned to the original Jacob Edwards, 30 acres described as the ⅔ part of the Home Place that was Amos^4 Dodge's.

DEA. RICHARD DODGE

Jacob Edwards continued to hold this property until 1819 when on April 23 he transferred by deed 221-22 to his son in law Dea. Richard Dodge, the cabinet maker, "Several parcels of land together with my now dwelling house, also the small dwelling house that was built for my son Benjamin Edwards."

In a deed dated April 6, 1821 recorded 228-100 signed by Stephen Dodge et. al. to Richard Dodge of Beverly, cabinet maker, several parcels of land in Wenham and Beverly and what remains of the easterly end of the house and the garden spot, it being the portion set to widow Hannah Dodge from the estate of Amos^4 Dodge (1756).



THE HOUSE WHICH JOHN DODGE GAVE TO HIS SON, ANDREW DODGE, 1708

The present home of Richard E. Alt, Md.

Thus after a period of 65 years a Richard Dodge becomes the owner of the former Amos[4] Dodge farm.

Deacon Richard passed the title to his son Richard, Jr. who was known locally as "Butcher Dick." He later gave it to his son Lucius B. Dodge who in the year 1892 deeded (1349-558) the farm to Hugh Hill of Beverly, described as "The lot his grandfather got from Jacob Edwards."

Between the years of 1892-4 the buildings were moved away to several new locations. On March 13, 1894 Hugh Hill conveyed (1406-262) to Mabel H. Wales that part of the farm lying on the Southern side of the street and adjoining Grover Street together with the dwelling house and barn previously mentioned. The house was taken up the hill opposite the original location where it now stands.

At this time the house was enlarged by several additions. Modern improvements were installed and it became the summer residence of several families until it was purchasd in 1935 by Dr. Alt who is the present owner.

Within the structure of the Alt house there is a portion comprising at least one room which shows evidences of great age, it being built of wide finish as well as wide floor boards, also some of the timbers, seen in the cellar, are large and hand hewn, possibly the work of John Dodge the original occupant and given by him to his son Andrew in May 6, 1708.

In a deed dated Nov. 20, 1847 (390-56) Deacon Richard Dodge conveys to his daughter Mary Ann Lefavour wife of Thomas Lefavour of Beverly a tract of land in Wenham and Beverly containing about 80 rods with a dwelling house thereon. It is described in part as being at the south corner of the lot at the road 55 feet (north East) of the east corner of said grantor now dwelling house, to the grantor was reserved the use and improvement of the western ½ of the granted dwelling house for the duration of his natural life. (This was the Benjamin Edwards house previously mentioned also his cabinet shop).

On September 7, 1866 (710-115) Thomas B. Lefavour conveys the above parcel to Henry Wilson of Beverly, who about 5 days later by deed (719-18) transferred the same to W. M. Ballard of Marblehead and then began a series of mortgages until October 17, 1868 when Ballard deeded it (758-72) to Albert Simonds of Hamilton. Albert Simonds occupied the place until April 2, 1869 when, in deed (771-109) the property was sold to Elizabeth C. Dodge of Beverly who occupied the premises until her death on July 3, 1888. In her will she gave her estate to her children to be divided between them. Her son Horace Ward Dodge received the easterly portion and at his decease it descended to his son Ernest B. Dodge. The western part of the house became the property of her daughters Mrs. Addison Preston, Mrs. Charles Ober and Miss Martha C. Dodge. The latter occupied the dwelling until her death. It is now owned by Marrion K. Ober of White Plains, New York.*

EBENEZER[3] DODGE

As previously stated John[2] Dodge on May 5, 1708 gave to his son Andrew[3] a deed of gift of some 40 acres of his farm. He likewise on the same date by deed recorded (81-202) gave to his son Ebenezer[3] a like acreage described as "a part of homestead on which my dwelling house stands," reserving only the eastwardly end of my dwelling house and the garden spot, I make use of; Also a part of the barn. This reservation was for the term of his natural life. Lieut. John[2] Dodge died about 3 years later at the age of 80 years. His wife Sarah died Feb. 8, 1705.

Ebenezer Dodge died about 9 years after receiving the gift from his father Lieut. John Dodge. In the settlement of the estate, it was divided among his eight children two of whom purchased the shares of the other six. Thus the farm of Ebenezer[3] Dodge became the property of Robert[4] and Benjamin[4].

Robert[4] Dodge occupied his property until March 23, 1719 when by deed (136-251) he conveyed to Amos Hilton of Manchester, marinor "The land on which I now live together with ½ of a dwelling house and barn standing thereon."

In a deed dated July 10, 1789 recorded (150-151) Al-

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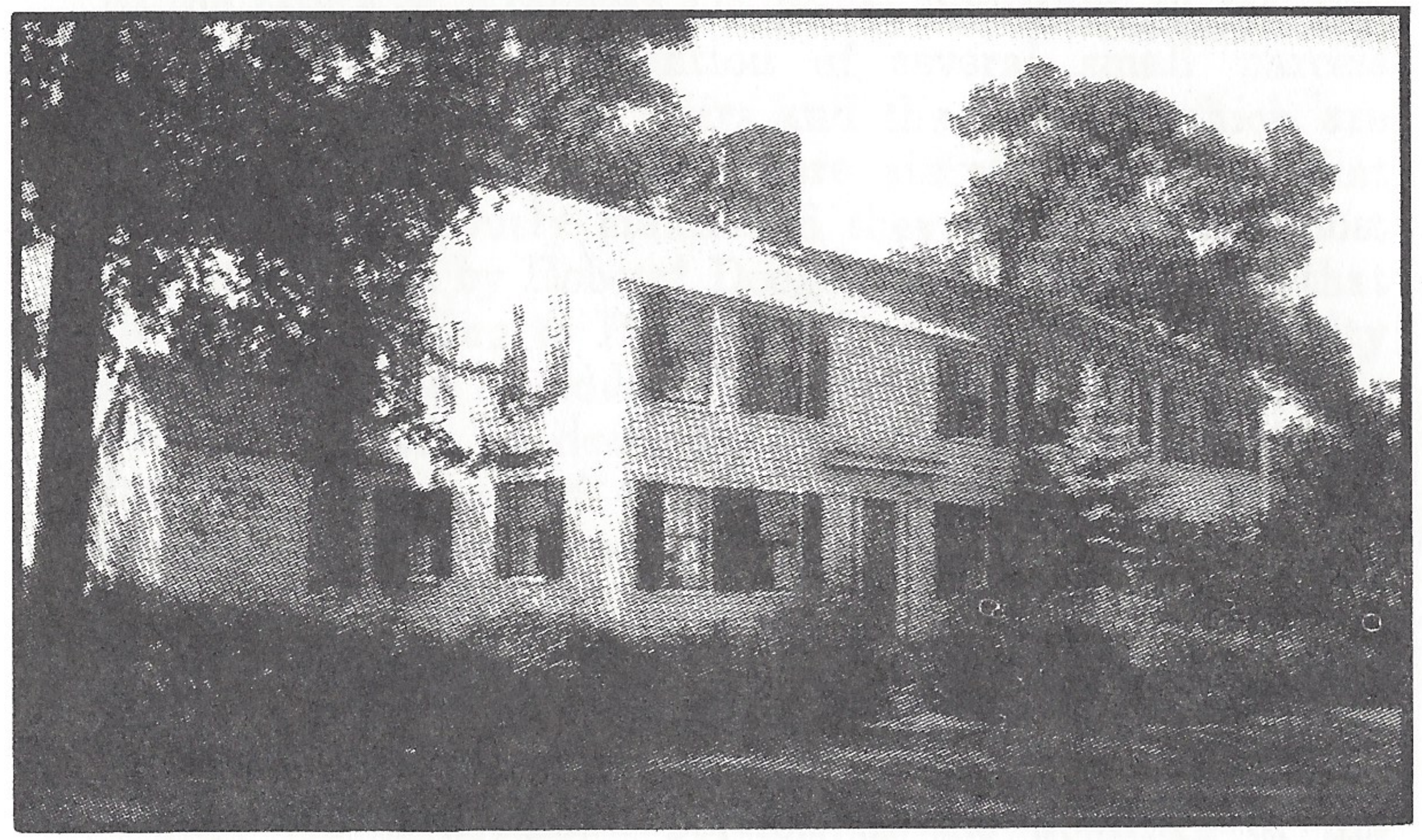
* Ernest B. Dodge and Marrion K. Ober are now the only blood descendants of the first Richard Dodge now owning any of his original "Homestead."



THE BENJ. EDWARDS HOUSE TO WHICH DEA. RICHARD DODGE ADDED HIS CABINET SHOP

Later it was sold to his daughter Mary A. Lefavour

Now the home of Ernest B. Dodge, 346 Dodge Street phia Hilton adm. of estate of Amos Hilton sold to John Edwards, Sr. of Beverly the real estate of her late husband and described as being bounded on the east by land of Jacob Edwards and on the west by land of Edward Dodge.

On Jan. 7, 1806 (179-252) John Edwards, Sr. gave to his son John Edwards, Jr. "The east end of my dwelling house in Beverly, the east end of my barn, also ¼ of an acre of land at the east end of my house, also the farm that was Robert^4 Dodge's." The division of the property in the estate of Ebenezer Dodge, as described in his probate records, makes mention of several small parcels being set to the several heirs and the lines of which are now undetermined as they were simply staked at that time. As previously mentioned they were, for the most part, purchased by Robert^4 Dodge, thus it will be seen that the portion falling to Benjamin Dodge^4, was of necessity small. To this he added the share of his sister Eunice (84-162) which is described as "being ⅛ part of our father's homestead of 40 acres." This must have been situated on the south side of the street and extended toward Beaver Pond.

In a deed dated 4-19-1815 (212-146) we find Mehitable Dodge widow of Benjamim conveying to John Edwards 8 acres called the ("whortleberry Pasture"). This evidently was Benjamin's portion of his holdings of his father's estate.

WESTERN PART

Up to this period Richard Dodge had disposed of the eastern half of his farm which was now occupied by his grand sons, the children of John Dodge.

The western part, or the remainder of the farm, he continued to own until his death on June 15, 1671. In his will he gives what he describes as his "Homestead" to his sons Edward and Joseph to be equally divided between them.

It appears that the sons were living on the place previously to their father's death. Each continued to use certain portions until 1709 when they recorded an agreement (21-80) whereby they officially established a legal boundary between their respective divisions. This boundary is now difficult to define but it will be sufficient to say that Edward had the eastern portion and Joseph the remainder of it to "Alewife" Brook, it being largely on the Southern side of the highway now Dodge's Row.

In a deed dated Feb. 17, 1714 and recorded book 73-242 Edward Dodge, Sr. conveys to sons Edward, Jr. and Mark Dodge what he describes as "My now dwelling house in which I now live and ⅔ of all my land of about 40 acres." He also mentions a wash house, barn, cider house, and press, and other buildings. Their brother Jonathan was to have the other ⅓ which lay on the South side of the street. It may have been located near the land owned by Samuel Gould of Beverly who in a deed recorded 48-191 sold his possessions to Jonathan and Mark Dodge.

Edward Dodge^{2}, Sr. died 1727 being the surviving son of Richard and Edith Dodge.

EDWARD^{3} DODGE

Edward Dodge, Jr. inherited his father's dwelling and the land adjoining as shown in the following pages.

At this date (1709) there does not appear to have been other than fences to have separated the portion chosen by Edward Dodge, Sr. and that of his nephew Robert who joined him on the east. (No. 3). But it becomes certain that Edward Dodge, Sr. like the others extended from

THE HOUSE WHICH JOHN DODGE GAVE TO HIS SON, EBENEZER DODGE, 1708

Now owned by Mr. Mauritz Askman

Miles River to Beaver Pond. Out of that portion toward the river was the plot that had come to be used as the family cemetery.

Up to this time it had no legal existence or protection. Therefore it became advisable for the families of the departed to take some action, as will be seen in a deed to be found in the Essex Institute Historical Collection Vol. 24-116 dated 1731. Here Edward Dodge, Jr. gives the cemetery lot and at that time the nephews entered into the agreement as to the building of the wall and maintaining a gate.

Edward^3 Dodge, Jr. died March 1750 giving the bulk of his estate to his son Nehemiah^4 who died three years later leaving only one son Edward who held the farm until March 15, 1781 when he deeded (137-62) the property to John Edwards, Sr. who in turn gave the same to his son Asa B. Edwards on Jan. 30, 1806 (191-223) and described the same as the place that was Edward Dodges containing 30 acres with a dwelling house and barn thereon.

In a deed dated Feb. 8, 1782 (150-176) Jonathan Dodge, Jr. sold to Edward Dodge who at this time was in New Boston, N. H., 33 acres on which stood a dwelling house, barn, and shop. On March 11, 1794 (159-174) Edward Dodge conveyed this also to John Edwards, Sr. (probably on the south side of Dodge Street). This was probably the last of Edwards holdings in Beverly for in that same year he moved to Londonberry, N. H.

Mark^3 Dodge received the western portion of the land of his father, Edward, as previously described and which he occupied until his death. In his probate record (360-206) dated 1787 was recorded a division of the real estate between his sons Asa and Mark. To Asa was given division No. 1 called the east side of the home place. It comprised about 6 acres adjoining the cemetery, also several other small parcels which are not identified at this time. Also the herbage in the "Burying Yard" adjoining.

Asa^4 Dodge

The will of Asa Dodge probated in 1806 (Book 374-359) gives to his wife Hannah ⅓ of real estate, 1 cow, and household goods.

To son Asa R. Dodge, the house they now live in and 4 acres of land adjoining and ½ of the barn. To son Mark and the daughter Rebecca the remainder is given.

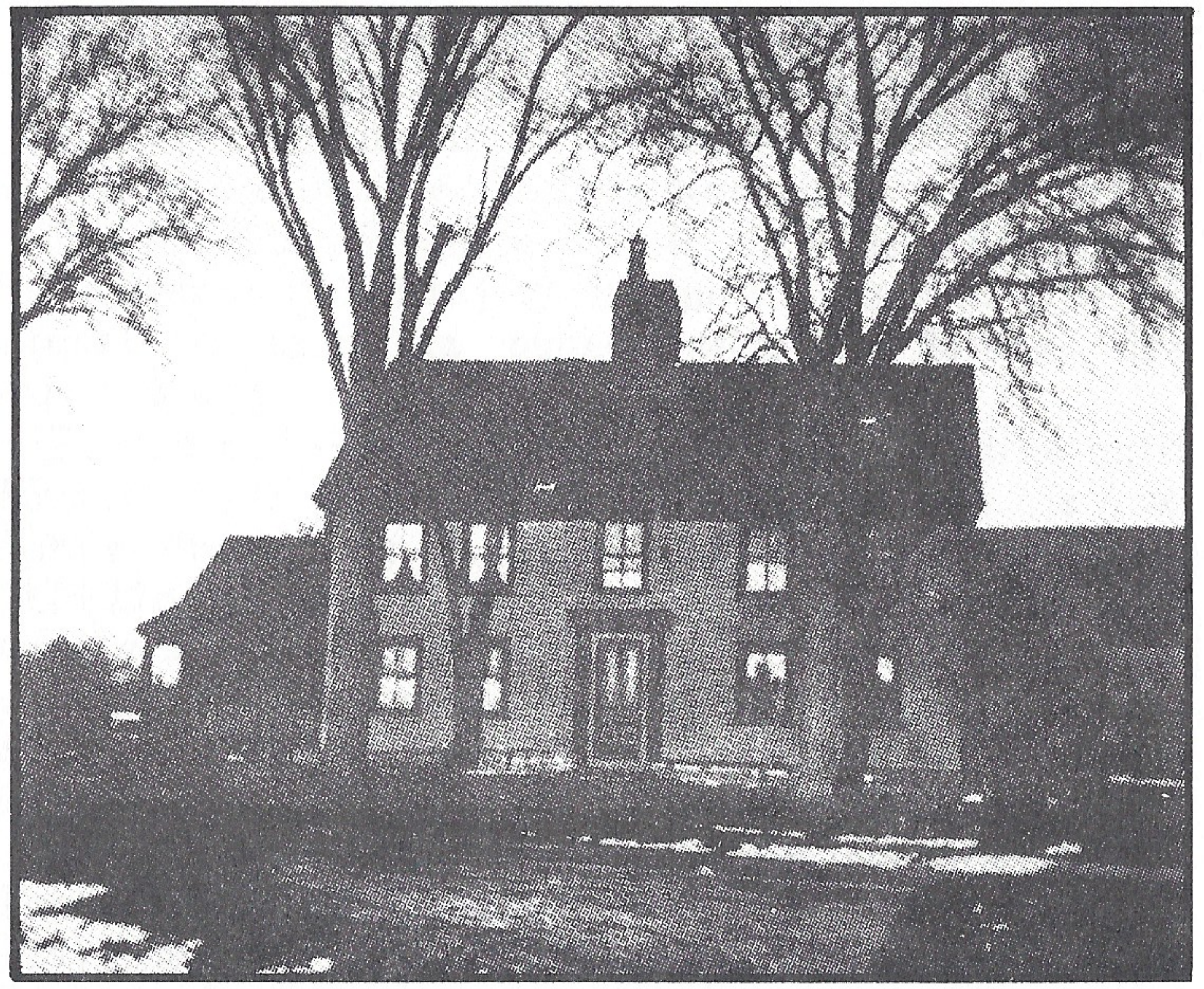
About this time we find many of the Wenham and Beverly residents moving from this locality to points beyond, largely in New Hampshire and Maine. This condition was brought about partly because many of the old homesteads could not be further sub-divided from a practical standpoint, also that new and cheaper lands were being offered elsewhere. This proved to be the circumstances confronting Sarah and Francis Dodge who were among those who had moved to New Boston, N. H. from there, in 1808, they sold to Sylvester Wilkins of Beverly (190-23) what is described as "The House that was given to us by our father Asa^4 Dodge of Beverly with about one acre of land under and adjoining the same."

Two years later Sylvester Wilkins conveyed the above to John Edwards, Sr. (190-24). This deed calls for a dwelling house, shop, and ½ of a barn and one acre of land. It is the same as conveyed by Sarah and Francis Dodge. The lines of the above lot have now disappeared and the property has merged with adjoining land of John Edwards. It was probably near the house occupied by Asa B. Edwards. About this time in a deed (237-204) dated Dec. 1812 we find Sylvester Wilkins and others, who were heirs of Asa Dodge selling 85 poles of land as an addition to the Cemetery. Later in June 15, 1815 by deed (236-70) they also sold a strip ½ rod wide beginning at the street as a way to the Cemetery. This will be found in a deed dated June 15, 1815 and recorded in book No. 236 lead 70.

Asa^5 Rix

We will now take up that part of Asa^4 Dodge's estate which was given to son Asa Rix Dodge by will as follows to wit. "To heirs of my son Asa Rix Dodge, deceased, the house they now live in and about 4 acres of land and ½ of the barn." This did not include the ⅓ part of the real estate given to the widow Hannah Dodge.

After the death of Asa^5 Rix Dodge, his widow, Dorcas, was appointed guardian of his 5 children who were all minors. It is evident that this also became the property



THE HOUSE WHICH JOHN EDWARDS, Sr. GAVE TO HIS SON ASA BAKER EDWARDS
JANUARY, 1808

Later known as the Old Foster House

of Francis Dodge who in turn sold the same to Sylvester Wilkins.

Under date of April 16, 1823 Sylvester Wilkins sold (232-78) to Isaac Woodbury, Jr. of Beverly, the dwelling house and out buildings with the land adjoining, formally the land of Asa Dodge which he sold to Francis Dodge.

Isaac Woodbury died some six years later and on April 3, 1830 at auction, Isaac Woodbury, Sr. purchased the place (259-224) consisting of the house and about one acre of land called the "Dodge's Row Place."

The following Spring or May 6, 1831 Isaac Woodbury, Sr. conveyed (259-286) to Hiram Preston and Howard Goodale as tenants in common, what was formerly his sons property.

Preston and Goodale occupied the place together until May 20, 1845 when Goodale released (355-60) his ½ to Hiram Preston. At this time 1845 Hiram Preston sold (376-178) to Zebulon Burnham a portion of his lot containing about 47 poles of his lot of land only. Three years later Zebulon sold to his son Ansell Burnham (401-171) the above 47 poles of land with a dwelling house thereon.

On April 12, 1856 Ansell Burnham conveys to Wm. Preston of Beverly a certain lot of land in Beverly (533-158) containing 47 rods with a dwelling house and barn thereon. On October 9, 1869 Wm. Preston conveys (784-4) to his brother Addison Preston the above mentioned house and lot. On Feb. 5, 1870 Addison Preston added to his lot by purchasing of Amos Burnham a strip 1 rod wide adjoining the westerly side of his house lot. This strip extended about 12 rods in length and was probably the "old" road to the Cemetery as a new way had since been located. It is on this one rod strip that there was built the western portion of the house as it now stands it being without a cellar. On April 13, 1887 Addison Preston purchased from his father Hiram (1364-363) a strip 12 feet wide and adjoining the Burnham strip, thus completing the homestead where he resided until his death on July 15, 1938. After this it was owned and occupied by his daughter Alice M. Preston until her decease Sept.

3, 1944. It has recently been purchased by Peer P. Johnson, the present owner. Hiram Preston, reserved the balance of the lot for his homestead and here he spent his last days. He conveyed on April 13, 1887 by deed (1364-362) to his daughter Carrie E. Preston a certain piece of land in Beverly with a dwelling house and other buildings, "the same being the premises on which I now live." Carrie Preston held the title until August 29, 1932 when she conveyed (2926-536) to Blanche T. Chaloner her holding. On June 30, 1933 it became the property of Lawrence L. Jones who is the present owner.

Mark^4 Dodge

As we have followed the passing of ownership of the land of Asa^4 Dodge, let us now take that portion which fell to Mark^4 Dodge, Jr. which is called division No. 2 in probate records (360-206). Mark Dodge, Jr. held his portion of his father's estate until October 24, 1825 when he sold (239-278) the place to Joseph Adams of Salem. This transfer records an actual survey by which it is possible to determine the boundaries of the land of Mark Dodge and others.

On May 27, 1826 in (271-69) Joseph Adams sold to Asa B. Edwards a parcel joining Edward's own land and adjacent to the Cemetery. Adams occupied the premises until October 21, 1840 when he conveyed to Zebulon Burnham, Sr. of Essex (321-82) "All the several parcels of real estate with buildings which I purchased of Mark Dodge, excepting so much as sold to Asa B. Edwards." On April 20, 1844 Zebulon Burnham, Sr. sold (360-130) to Zebulon Burnham, Jr. of Beverly what was described as "the premises which I purchased of Joseph Adams."

The following year Zebulon Burnham, Jr. sold the same to Amos Burnham (360-130) who occupied it for many years. On account of failing health Israel O. Edwards was appointed his guardian and managed his affairs until his death. As guardian Israel O. Edwards in 1905 conveyed (1798-291) 8 acres of land to Fred A. Floyd who remains its present owner. The dwelling house of Amos Burnham was destroyed by fire, (1904) and thus vanished what was probably the oldest house on Dodge Row, the

homestead of Mark Dodge, Sr. as mentioned in 1714 Mr. Floyd built the present house on about the original location. To Rebecca Dodge the widow of Mark Dodge, Sr., there was given a small portion of her husbands estate consisting of about two acres which was situated adjoining to the Cemetery. This like other parcels in that vicinity soon became the property of Asa B. Edwards.

After the death of Asa B. Edwards, June 15, 1864, his son John Edwards and others transferred their interests in the same to their brother, Israel O. Edwards as shown by deed (669-274) who three years later on Feb. 6, 1869 by deed (787-49) sold the same to Amos Burnham. Rebecca also received 8 acres of meadow which like the other parcel passed into the possession of Asa Baker Edwards. It later fell to his son Israel O. Edwards who sold the same to Abraham H. Fisk Feb. 4, 1869 (765-146). After the death of Fisk, this lot passed through a succession of owners namely R. G. Bennett, Amos Andrews, Jr., Cornelius L. Preston, Mary J. Reed, and her son Joseph Reed who on May 18, 1928 (2770-202) sold the same to George A. Dean. It was described as the same as I. O. Edwards conveyed Fisk minus a small portion taken by the town to enlarge the school grounds. Abraham Fisk and the successive owners, to Joseph Reed, occupied the homestead now owned by Israel M. Elliott.

Dodge's Row School

It appears that Asa B. Edwards and John Conant's heirs gave of their land a sight for the location of what became known as the "Dodge Row School" and later to clear the title and to enlarge the same their respective heirs gave a deed to the Town of Beverly. This school was in operation until the building was destroyed by fire on October 5, 1905. The dwelling house built and occupied now by Mr. Dean is located near the sight of the old school house.

Joseph^2 Dodge

Having disposed of the land occupied by Edward Dodge, we will now pass to the last portion of Richard Dodge's original farm that fell to his son Joseph. (Lot

6-F) In the agreement dated 1709 (21-80) between Joseph and his brother Edward the exact location and boundaries as established at that time are undefined and obscure but as we follow the subsequent descriptions by later owners, it becomes clear that Joseph was living in a dwelling situated on the lot now the home of Mrs. Frank Edwards. This lot of about 3 acres is on the north side of Dodge Street and was the only land on that side of the street owned by Joseph Dodge. The remainder of his property lays on the opposite side of the road and extended on Dodge Street from the way leading to Beaver Pond near the house of George A. Foster, westward about 120 rods to a point near the Mill at Alewife Brook. It also extended southerly from Dodge Street 170 rods to Beaver Pond. Joseph Dodge had three sons namely, Joseph, who was a physician in Salem and received financial aid from his father, Jonah and Elisha who remained at home on the farm. Joseph Dodge died August 10, 1716. In a deed dated May 3, 1716 (31-17) he gave to his sons Jonah and Elisha as follows: "My estate to be equally divided as to quantity and quality be it upland or meadow as follows: Jonah shall have and enjoy the dwelling house in which he lives and the barn belonging to it; the land on which said house and barn stands and the land around the said house and Elisha shall enjoy the house he now lives in, the out housing, well and barn, and land on which they stand; all the rest and remainder of my land of all kinds be it more or less to be equally divided between them." Elisha occupied the dwelling house on the 3 acres on the north side of Dodge Street while his farm buildings were on the opposite side of the road where his land was located. In his will made in 1755 (Prob. 332-498) he gives to his wife, Mary Dodge, the western ½ of the house and the furniture and etc. including corn, meat, pork, 16 bushels of Indian corn and six barrels of cider. To son Elisha all my real estate." He also mentions daughters Lois and Mary. Elisha carried on the farm until April 23, 1777 when he sold (136-82) to Dr. Nathaniel Dabney of Salem, 3 acres 27 rods of land in Beverly bounded south by the highway 43 rods also northeast and northwest by land of Mark Dodge and Joseph Woodbury with the dwelling house and other buildings, also 23 acres bounded north on the highway 83½ rods. After selling the farm to Dr. Dabney, he followed the example of others of the Dodges and moved to New Boston, N. H.

JONAH[3]

Having already disposed of the most of Richard Dodge's original farm we will now consider the remaining portion that of Joseph's[2] division that he gave to his son Jonah[3] Dodge in a deed (31-17) which included his brother Elisha[3]. This deed gives Jonah the house he is living in and the barn and other buildings and ½ of the land, but makes no mention as to quantity or location. The location of this property is to be arrived at by the process of elimination and by information contained in deeds of adjoining parcels. Jonah was a weaver as well as a farmer. He married Sarah Friend of Wenham in 1707. He died 1754 leaving four children namely, Sarah who married Samuel Raymond; Jonah, married Mary Edwards; James, married Jemima Patch and Jacob married Abigail Edwards. There are no probate records giving any light as to the disposal or divisions of his estate.

In a deed (90-264) dated Dec. 13, 1743 given by Jonah Dodge to Jacob Dodge "which includes ½ of all my real estate together with ½ of my dwelling house, barns, and edifices or other buildings. It being my homestead of land and buildings situated in Beverly and containing 48 acres."

As this deed was dated eleven years before the death of Jonah Dodge, Sr., it is reasonable to suppose that it represents a transfer of father to son.

In a deed dated March 12, 1754 (115-198) Samuel Raymond and wife Sarah of Lexington convey to James Dodge of Wenham (probably a brother) all right title and interest in the estate of their father, Jonah Dodge, consisting of the dwelling house and about 50 acres adjoining the same also 13 acres south of the dwelling, together with other parcels to include about 70 acres of which their interest is 1/5 of the whole. What became of the 1/5 portion of James Dodge is uncertain and doubtless that information is lost by an unrecorded deed. It is not likely that Jonah Dodge, Jr. ever received any part of his father's homestead. The theory is borne out by the fact that in 1784 Jonah Dodge conveyed (137-242) to Thomas Appleton, a farm on Long Hill, Beverly adjoining the land of Samuel Cole. This property is now the residence of Mr. Ellery Sedgwick.

That Jacob Dodge gained full possession of the old homestead is shown by a deed of Jacob Dodge to Dr. Dabney dated Sept. 12, 1776 conveying (134-258) 60½ acres together with a dwelling house and barn; excepting one acre 96 rods of land included within the same, adjoining the road and belonging to Elisha Dodge. This parcel must have been located to the eastward of land of Elisha Dodge and adjoining Mark Dodge, also having a street frontage of 32½ rods and extending southward from the highway 171 rods to Beaver Pond. Included in this sale was a lot of back land consisting of over 19 acres which at this time has not been located.

It will be noticed that Dr. Dabney is now the owner of the two farms which were formerly the property of Joseph Dodge as agreed upon in 1709 by his brother Edward. Dr. Dabney held the title of the two farms until 1797 when he sold (168-188) to Deacon John Conant 2nd. of Beverly 100 acres in several parcels, including the 3 acres on the north side of the highway. This tract of land remained in the possession of Conant heirs for several generations until a portion came to Charles G. Conant. In 1880 Charles Conant tore down the old house which his grandfather, John Conant, bought of Dabney in 1797 (Joseph Dodge House) and replaced it by the present house. In Dec. 21, 1894 Charles G. Conant sold (1438-540) to Frank Edwards 4 acres with the buildings including his dwelling house on the north side of the road also about 30 acres with the buildings there on located on the opposite side of Dodge Street.

(There is no further mention of the Jacob Dodge house after it was sold to Dr. Dabney (possibly burned about 1737). Jacob Dodge at an unknown date moved with his son Jacob to New Boston, N. H.)

The eastern part of the Conant property which Jacob Dodge owned as heretofore mentioned became the portion of Ezra Conant. After his death, it was held by his heirs until 1851 when in a deed (470-228) Francis R. Edwards purchased 5/6 undivided part of 28 acres called the Pond pastures, of the heirs of Ezra Conant. After the death of Francis R. Edwards it descended to his son Frank who later purchased the remaining one sixth part and thus controlled the entire parcel which he held until Sept. 26, 1907 when he sold out his entire holdings on the south side of Dodge Street to Amos A. Lawrence.

In the foregoing pages we have traced the passing of ownership of the various parcels of land which formerly comprised the farm of Richard Dodge as it passed from father to son and later to grandsons, which divisions have taken us through a period of about 175 years.

Richards sons all of them have passed away and doubtless were buried near their father in the cemetery back of their father's homestead. Today there remains the stones marking the resting place of Andrew and his son Amos, also that of Jonah Dodge. The death of Asa Dodge in 1806 marked the passing of the last of the heirs of Mark Dodge owning land on Dodge Street. From 1806 for a period of time extending almost to that of the present the name of Edwards is to replace the once common name of Dodge. The farm as once occupied by Amos Dodge, Jr. is now held by Jacob Edwards.

Likewise the portion that was Joseph Dodges' is now the property of Deacon John Conant 2nd. and has been held in the Conant family for many years since.

That part of Edward[2] Dodges' estate which fell to his son Mark[3] has been the most active as to owners and was soon held by several persons other than the Dodges. There is still remaining a large tract which was formerly that of Ebenezer[3] Dodge also that of Edward Dodge, Jr. which has become the property of John Edwards, Sr.; and the development of which we will take up in the following pages. We will notice that the name "Edwards" is to become as common place as was once that of "Dodge."

The greater number of Richard Dodges' grand sons or the third generation found their homes in New Hampshire and largely in New Boston or adjoining towns. I have been able to relate only a few of the facts relating to their lands. Only a few of their dwellings remain to the present day, for us to behold. The homestead of Richard Dodge has not been positively located. It has disappeared, together with that of Jonah and Elisha. Marks' which probably was the last, was occupied by Amos Burnham at the time when it was destroyed by fire in May 30, 1904.

Within the present structure of the house now standing on the hill opposite 346 Dodge Street, is a portion of some ancient construction. It may be a portion of the home of Andrew Dodge and possibly that of his father John previously to 1706.

The farm house now owned by Mr. Askman is without question the dwelling house that was given to Ebenezer Dodge in 1706 by his father John. The farm house is where John spent his last days and this is where he died in the year 1711. Needless to say there remain many interesting facts yet to be discovered, which today are lost, and memory cannot recall. These facts were once common knowledge to the early families who once lived on Dodge Street.

Time has removed them, and now, "They beneath the turf are laid whereon they lived and toiled and prayed."

JOHN EDWARDS

During the period when the various Dodge families were disposing of their Dodges Row farms and taking up new land, being offered elsewhere, largely in New Hampshire, we find one John Edwards by name who stood ready to purchase the several parcels of which the Dodges wished to be relieved. In a few years he purchased the real estate of Edward, Jonathan, Robert, Benjamin and others ranging in quantity from a few acres to lots of 40 or more acres each.

This he held until January 7, 1806 when by deed of gift he gave to each of his three sons a tract of land and provided each with a set of farm buildings as well as a dwelling.

To Ezra he gave the farm (Deed No. 179-253) of Jonathan Dodge which was located on what is now Grover street and was probably that tract which Jonathan purchased of Samuel Gould, also ½ of a dwelling house and barn, being the dwelling of his father John.

Following the death of Ezra and in accordance with his will, the farm became the portions of his sons Ezra Ephriam A. and Henry O. Edwards. Ruben was to receive 5.00 dollars only as he had been previously provided for. Later Henry O. Edwards sold a portion of his land to Patience K. Andrews being what was known as the Pond Pasture. Also he conveyed to his brother Ezra about 23 acres on the south side of Dodge Street.

During this period of re-adjustment Ezra sells his portion to his brother Ruben, who died of insanity, on April 13, 1861. To settle his estate, at an auction Henry O. Edwards purchases the land of his brother Rubin. Thus Henry O. Edwards at one time owned about ½ of the farm of Jonathan^3 Dodge. Ephriam probably had the remainder following the death of Henry Edwards in 1877 his estate was held by the family during which time it was leased to different persons until the year 1918 when Reitha M. Edwards of Holbrook, Mass. and Evelyn, wife of John Tiny of Worchester conveyed to Helen Wales ½ of a house and land on the north side of Dodge Street also land and buildings on the south side of the street and described as being a part of the estate which we inherited from our father and mother Henry O. and Martha M. Edwards. On the same date in 1806 John Edwards, Sr. gave by deed (179-252) to his son John, Jr. what he described as the farm that was Robert Dodges together with the east end of my house and east end of my barn. This farm extended from Miles River to Beaver Pond. In some unknown way John Edwards injured his foot with a rusty nail and died of lock jaw on August 6, 1822 aged 44. After his death, the farm was divided and to his son-in-law David Standley fell 11 acres on the north side of the highway and ½ of the house and barn of which Ezra Edwards is the owner, part owner. Also from the division was set off about 30 acres to Jeremiah Choate who married Hannah Edwards.

David Standley received his part of John Edwards farm in a deed dated March 18, 1839 and held the same during his life time. On April 14, 1891 we find recorded a deed from Jerusha Standley, David Standley, Elizabeth Hobbs' and Harriett Jellison, heirs at law of David and Jerusha Standley deceased to Mary O. Edwards, a parcel of land and ½ of a barn and ⅛ acre of land conveyed to David Standley in 1861 by Andrew Dodge and formerly Ruben Edwards.

On September 14, 1916 George H. Edwards sold the same to Helen Wales. In two transfers Helen Wales sells first the Henry O. Edwards and later the George H. Edwards farms to Mr. Mauritz Askman. The remainder of John Edwards, Jr. farm recently became the property of Dorothy Rimmer.

Asa B. Edwards like his brothers received on January 7, 1806 from his father John Edwards, Sr. a tract of land in Beverly with the buildings thereon of about 30 acres. It being the place that was Edward Dodge's and being on either side of the highway and bounded. It was bounded on the west by Asa Dodge's land, north on the river, and south on Beaver Pond. This lot was the possible site of the Richard Dodge house and the dwelling in which Asa Edwards lived may have been the original Dodge homestead or perhaps it was a structure which superceded the original and was placed either on or near

the first location. It was destroyed by fire on January 5, 1913. This became the home of Asa until his death, September 8, 1857.

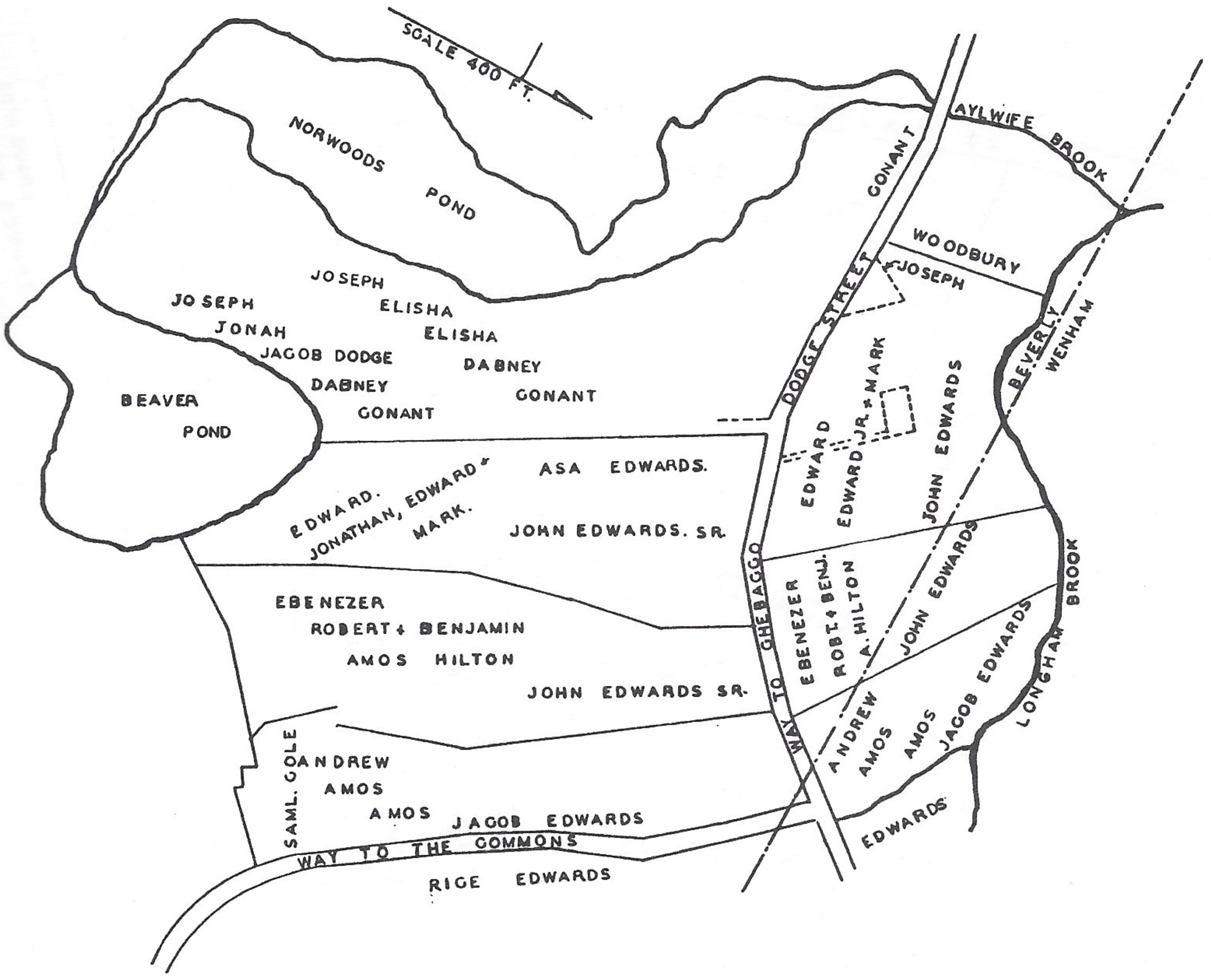
In the settlement of his estate a portion went to Israel O. Edwards who in turn sold it to Amos Burnham. A second parcel also went to Israel O. Edwards, this lay on the south side of the highway and was bounded by Henry O. Edwards on the east. It contained about 19 acres. It was purchased later by Addison Preston at auction in 1881. This is now the property of Dr. Lambert. The remainder of the farm went to John Edwards of Salem who on December 28, 1871 sold the same to Patience K. wife of Darius Andrews. To this was added the Pond Pasture which was formerly owned by Henry O. Edwards. On March 25, 1874 Darius Andrews and wife conveyed the same to Ezra L. Foster who by his will gave the same to his sons John and Arthur in equal parts. Later John Foster sold his portion to his brother Arthur who operated the place as a truck and market garden or farm until his death.

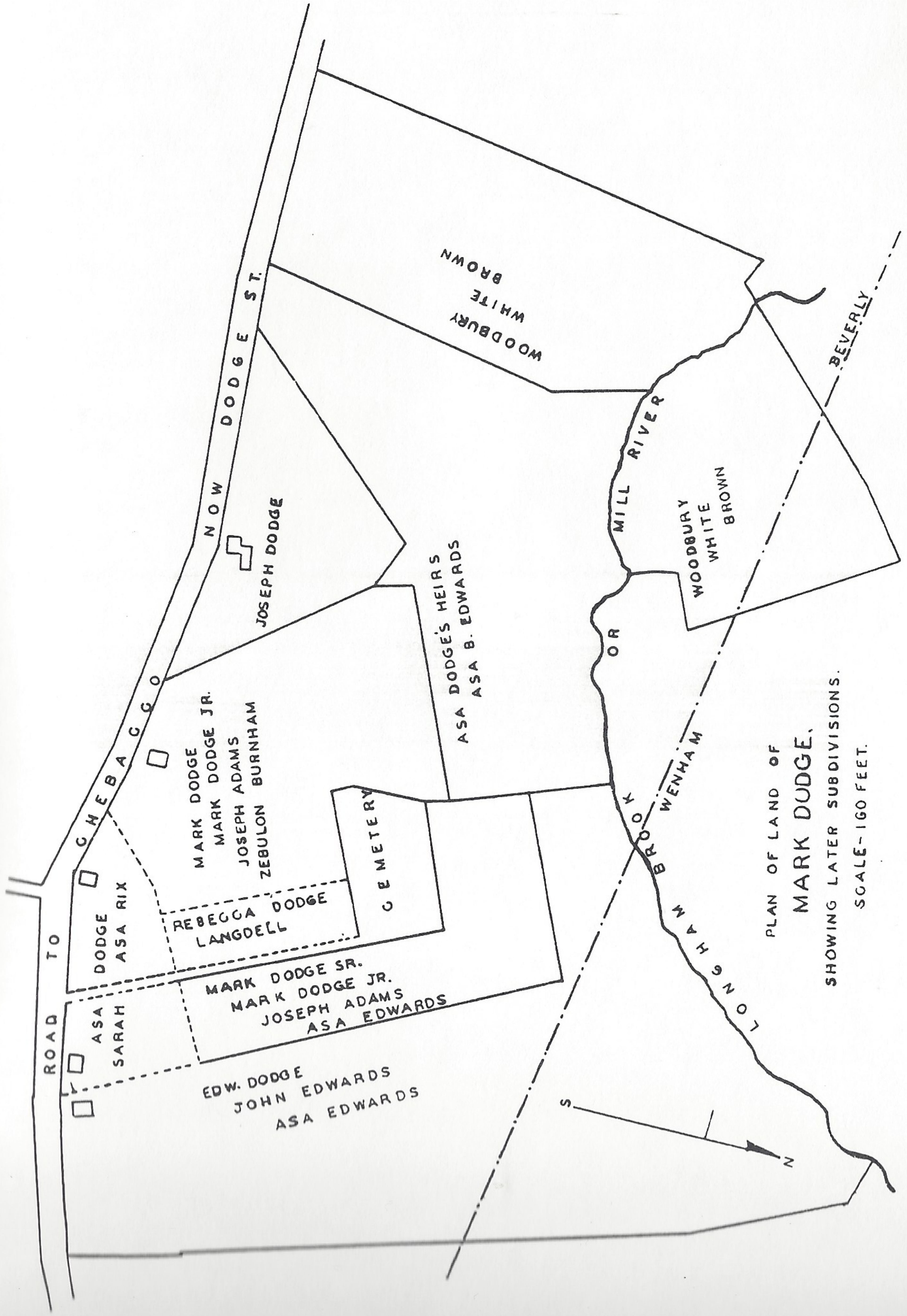
In 1922 Alice M. Foster widow and son George A. Foster conveyed to Frederick Ayet that part of the farm situated on the north side of the street. This land was held by Mr. Ayer until May 1938 when he sold the same to Peer P. Johnson, Jr.

Mr. Johnson operates the land as a vegetable and chicken farm and has erected a building for housing chickens either on or near the former cellar of the Asa B. Edwards house, previously mentioned. M. George A. Foster became the owner of the rest of the farm on the south side of Dodge Street where on was the dwelling house.

A part of this land together with the dwelling was sold a few months ago to Charles F. Riordan who is the present owner.

APPROXIMATE BOUNDARY OF THE
"DODGE HOMESTEAD"
SHOWING LATER DIVISIONS


SCALE 400 FT.
NORWOODS POND
AYLWIFE BROOK
CONANT
WOODBURY
JOSEPH
BEVERLY
WENHAM
DODGE STREET
JOSEPH
ELISHA
JOSEPH
JONAH
ELISHA
JACOB DODGE
DABNEY
DABNEY
CONANT
CONANT
BEAVER POND
EDWARD
EDWARD JR. + MARK
JOHN EDWARDS
ASA EDWARDS.
EDWARD.
JONATHAN, EDWARD"
MARK.
JOHN EDWARDS. SR.
WAY TO CHEBACCO
EBENEZER
ROBT. + BENJ.
A. HILTON
JOHN EDWARDS
LONGHAM BROOK
JACOB EDWARDS
AMOS
AMOS
ANDREW
EBENEZER
ROBERT + BENJAMIN
AMOS HILTON
JOHN EDWARDS SR.
SAML. COLE
ANDREW
AMOS
AMOS
JACOB EDWARDS
EDWARDS
WAY TO THE COMMONS
RICE EDWARDS


WOODBURY
WHITE
BROWN
ROAD TO CHEBACCO NOW DODGE ST.
JOSEPH DODGE
ASA DODGE'S HEIRS
ASA B. EDWARDS
MILL RIVER OR LONGHAM BROOK
BEVERLY
WENHAM
WOODBURY
WHITE
BROWN
MARK DODGE
MARK DODGE JR.
JOSEPH ADAMS
ZEBULON BURNHAM
DODGE
ASA RIX
REBECCA DODGE
LANGDELL
CEMETERY
ASA
SARAH
MARK DODGE SR.
MARK DODGE JR.
JOSEPH ADAMS
ASA EDWARDS
EDW. DODGE
JOHN EDWARDS
ASA EDWARDS
S
N

PLAN OF LAND OF
MARK DODGE,
SHOWING LATER SUBDIVISIONS.
SCALE-160 FEET.